(e) what steps have been taken by Government to bring the 80% children of unorganised sector under the Labour Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA); (a): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) 'Yes' Sir.

(e) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 apart from prohibiting child Labour in certain specified occupations/Processes also regulates the working conditions of child labour in all other areas including employment in the unorganised sector.

Proposal to Amend the Industrial Disputes Act

751. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what are the details of the proposed amendments;

(c) whether these changes allow the industrialists to shut down their units without obtaining prior permission from Government; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to safeguard the interests of the workers likely to be thrown out of jobs by such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Based on the recommendations made by the Ramanujam Committee on New Industrial Relations Law and deliberations held at various forums and after taking into consideration the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group on Industrial Restructuring, specific proposals to amend the Industrial Disputes Act have been formulated. The proposals are being further processed.

Study Regarding Female Labourers

752. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any state-wise study has been made by Government or social organisations regarding the number of female labourers (including the agricultural sector) in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures have been taken so far by Government to improve their working conditions by the employers and payment of wages in consonance with the price index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Statewise number of female labourers/workers in various industrial categories including the agricultural sector in the country is available in the Union Primary Census abstract 1991 published by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.

(c) The Government have enacted various labour laws which prescribe protective provisions covering aspects like health, welfare, maternity benefits, restrictions in hazardous employment, obligatory rest, etc. for women workers. Equal payment of wages to men & women workers is prescribed under the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976. The responsibility for implementation of these Laws rests primarily with the State Government. The Central Government has been impressing upon the State Governments from time to time to make greater efforts in ensuring that women workers get the benefit of the existing legal provisions and many of them have set up separate cell for the purpose. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948,